

Increase in share of manufacturing in GDP

17. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had decided to increase the share of manufacturing in the country's Gross Domestic Product from 17 to 33 per cent;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that Government had constituted a sub-committee to recommend a strategy for growth of the manufacturing sector; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government is, endeavouring to achieve a sustained growth of 12% per annum in manufacturing, *inter alia*, with a view to stepping up the share of manufacturing in GDP.

(c) and (d) A High Level Committee on Manufacturing (HLCM) chaired by the Prime Minister has been set up for resolving policy issues and operationalisation of the plans for growth of various sectors of manufacturing. An empowered sub-committee has been constituted to facilitate the functioning of the HLCM.

Decline in exports to USA and European countries

18. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether our country's export to USA and European countries is falling;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the action taken in this regard; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to retain the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) granted by USA?